

# How does it End?

- *Merge Pierce*

From Guatemala, from El Salvador,  
Honduras they travel overland  
With little, with nothing but hope  
Out of terror, from rape and murder

With daughters and sons, babies  
They hope they're carrying to safety.  
They believe the old promises.  
Here you will be safe, here there's

Work no white Americans wants.  
You'll save to save family members.  
This will be a home forever.  
Here you will not cower in fear.

They cross and are treated  
Worse than thieves, shoved  
Into overcrowded camps, into  
Cages like dogs no one wants.

Here the children they fled so far  
To save are ripped from them  
Pinned like sheep, alone in crowds  
Crying, confused, terrified again.

Oh, Emma Lazarus, could you see,  
Would you recognize this country?  
France, you must take back that lady  
With her now extinguished torch.

*Marge Pierce is the author of many books of poetry,  
most recently Made in Detroit*

\*\*\*